

Message Text

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ORIGIN IO-14

INFO OCT-01 AF-10 EUR-12 EA-07 NEA-10 ISO-00 CIAE-00
DODE-00 PM-04 H-01 INR-07 L-03 NSAE-00 NSC-05
PA-01 PRS-01 SP-02 SS-15 USIA-06 ACDA-07 OMB-01
TRSE-00 /107 R

DRAFTED BY IO/UNP:GBHELMAN:BFOPPEL:MR
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EA/RA:LMCNUTT
AF:WLEWIS
PM:LHGELB
S/S : TGMARTIN

-----088722 251840Z /41

P R 251805Z JUN 77
FM SECSTATE WASHDC
TO USMISSION USUN NEW YORK PRIORITY
INFO AMEMBASSY BONN
AMEMBASSY CANBERRA
USMISSION GENEVA
AMEMBASSY LONDON
AMEMBASSY MOSCOW
AMEMBASSY PARIS
AMEMBASSY TOKYO
AMEMBASSY WELLINGTON
USMISSION NATO
AMEMBASSY DACCA
USLO PEKING
AMEMBASSY NEW DELHI
AMEMBASSY JAKARTA
AMEMBASSY TEHRAN
AMEMBASSY NAIROBI
AMEMBASSY ANTANANARIVO
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AMEMBASSY KUALA LUMPUR
AMEMBASSY PORT LOUIS
AMEMBASSY ISLAMABAD
AMEMBASSY MOGADISCIO
AMEMBASSY COLOMBO
AMEMBASSY DAR ES SALAAM
AMEMBASSY SANA

AMEMBASSY LUSAKA
USINT BAGHDAD BY POUCH

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E.O. 11652: N/A

TAGS: PARM, UNGA, XO

SUBJECT: RESPONSE TO INDIAN OCEAN AD HOC COMMITTEE

REF: A) USUN 1196; B) STATE 89729; C) USUN 1139

1. DEPARTMENT HAS CONDUCTED THOROUGH REVIEW OF USUN'S PROPOSED MODIFICATIONS TO THE US RESPONSE TO THE UN AD HOC COMMITTEE ON THE INDIAN OCEAN (PARA 7, REF A). WE HAVE PREPARED A REVISED RESPONSE WHICH WE BELIEVE WILL MEET MISSION'S CONCERNS WITHOUT COMPROMISING US VITAL INTERESTS.

2. THE REVISED RESPONSE INCORPORATES MOST SUGGESTIONS MADE BY MISSION AND SPECIFICALLY INDICATES THAT THE US IS PREPARED TO KEEP THE AD HOC COMMITTEE INFORMED OF IMPORTANT DEVELOPMENTS THAT MAY HAVE A BEARING ON ITS WORK. HOWEVER, THE REVISED RESPONSE CLEARLY INDICATES TO THE COMMITTEE THAT THERE IS NO BASIC CHANGE IN THE US POSITION
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TOWARD A MULTILATERAL CONFERENCE ON THE INDIAN OCEAN.

3. IN TRANSMITTING THE REVISED US RESPONSE TO THE AD HOC COMMITTEE, MISSION SHOULD FOLLOW UP WITH THE SOVIETS IN NEW YORK TO DETERMINE WHETHER THEY WILL BE WILLING TO JOIN US IN KEEPING THE COMMITTEE INFORMED. IN VIEW OF EXPRESSED UK AND OTHER ALLIED INTEREST IN INDIAN OCEAN ARMS CONTROL ISSUES, MISSION ALSO IS INSTRUCTED TO INFORM ALLIES IN NEW YORK OF THE SUBSTANCE OF THE US RESPONSE PRIOR TO ITS DELIVERY.

4. TEXT OF US RESPONSE TO INVITATION OF AD HOC COMMITTEE TO PARTICIPATE IN THE WORK OF THE COMMITTEE, CONVEYED IN APRIL 14 LETTER TO AMBASSADOR YOUNG (REF C) FOLLOWS:

BEGIN TEXT:

THANK YOU FOR YOUR LETTER OF APRIL 14 INVITING THE US MISSION TO THE UNITED NATIONS TO PARTICIPATE IN CONSULTATIONS LOOKING TOWARD THE CONVENING OF A CONFERENCE ON THE INDIAN OCEAN AND TO COOPERATE IN A PRACTICAL MANNER WITH THE AD HOC COMMITTEE ON THE INDIAN OCEAN.

THE UNITED STATES FULLY SHARES THE DESIRE OF THE INDIAN OCEAN LITTORAL AND HINTERLAND STATES THAT THE REGION NOT BECOME AN ARENA FOR MILITARY COMPETITION ON THE PART OF OUTSIDE POWERS. PRESIDENT CARTER, AS YOU KNOW, HAS STATED THAT WE ARE WILLING TO JOIN THE SOVIET UNION IN SEEKING WAYS TO ACHIEVE MUTUAL MILITARY RESTRAINT IN THE REGION. WHEN SECRETARY OF STATE CYRUS VANCE WAS IN MOSCOW IN MARCH, HE SUGGESTED THAT THE US AND USSR JOINTLY EXPLORE THIS ISSUE. OUR TWO COUNTRIES HAVE AGREED TO MEET AGAIN AT THE WORKING LEVEL.

WE ARE THUS READY TO WORK TOWARDS THE GOAL OF PROMOTING PEACE AND SECURITY FOR ALL IN THE INDIAN OCEAN REGION.
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WE REMAIN UNCONVINCED, HOWEVER, THAT AN INDIAN OCEAN CONFERENCE IS THE BEST WAY TO ACHIEVE THAT GOAL. NEVERTHELESS, DUE TO THE INTEREST EXPRESSED BY THE AD HOC COMMITTEE IN THIS SAME GOAL, THE UNITED STATES IS PREPARED TO EXTEND ITS PRACTICAL COOPERATION TO THE COMMITTEE BY KEEPING IT INFORMED OF IMPORTANT DEVELOPMENTS THAT MAY HAVE A BEARING ON ITS WORK AND BE OF INTEREST OT ITS MEMBERS.

AT THE SAME TIME, WE MUST RESPECTFULLY DECLINE TO PARTICIPATE IN CONSULTATIONS HAVING AS THEIR EXPRESS PURPOSE THE FORMULATION OF A PROGRAM OF ACTION LEADING TO THE CONVENING OF A CONFERENCE. WE WILL, HOWEVER, LOOK FORWARD TO SHARING VIEWS WITH STATES OF THE REGION AND OTHERS ON HOW BEST TO PROTECT THE PEACE AND SECURITY OF THE INDIAN OCEAN.

END TEXT.

VANCE

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Message Attributes

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Disposition Approved on Date:
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